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Cuba Critic Fires Away, But President Keeps Cool

Miami News Wire Service

WASHINGTON — President Kennedy is standing aloof from the criticism of his Cuba policies flowing down from Capitol Hill.

Presidential Press Secretary Pierre Salinger made this clear yesterday in declining to comment on a blistering attack by House Republican whip Leslie Arends of Illinois.

"We're not going to get into these daily arguments," Salinger said.

Instead, the President is leav-

ing this more or less to his Capitol Hill lieutenants, Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield of Montana and Senate whip Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota.

Sen. Mansfield urged his colleagues Friday to weigh their words carefully before leveling new Cuba charges. He said they might "help drive the people and the President toward war" through charges "steeped in politics, panic and perversion of facts."

Sen. Humphrey assailed a

speech by Rep. Arends, made in St. Petersburg, as "irresponsible, partisan and political."

He said Rep. Arends should have voiced his complaints during bi-partisan briefings for congressional leaders at the White House. "The time to be brave is when you are facing the President," Sen. Humphrey said.

But the Mansfield-Humphrey reaction did not in any way deter Arends. The Republican whip said yesterday he will continue to raise questions until the Kennedy Administration "comes clean" about events leading up to Oct. 14, when aerial photographs proved Soviet offensive missiles were in Cuba.

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